

Remarks

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 1-22 stand rejected. Claims 1, 7, and 15 are amended herein. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request allowance of claims 1-22.

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0067816 (Bushnell) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,761,279 (Bierman et al.). Inasmuch as the rejection applies to the claims as amended, Applicants respectfully traverse the amendment.

Independent claims 1, 7, and 15 require receiving and decrypting an encrypted caller identifier from the caller system. Support for the amendment is found at page 18, lines 1-11 of the application.

Neither Bushnell nor Bierman disclose receiving and decrypting an encrypted caller identifier from a caller system. In contrast, both Bushnell and Bierman disclose receiving an unencrypted code and password for identifying the caller.

Independent claims 1, 7, and 15 therefore include features that are neither taught nor suggested by any of the cited references. Claims 2-6, 8-14, and 16-22 are allowable for the same reasons as claims 1, 7, and 15.

Applicants submit that there are numerous additional reasons in support of patentability, but that such reasons are moot in light of the above remarks and are omitted in the interests of brevity. Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-22.

Please feel free to call me to discuss the patentability of the pending claims.

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